



# FEMA

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh) and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

## FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Saturday, December 16, 2017

Issued: 0800 CT

**Day 1 Weather Impacts:** *Elevated/critical fire weather conditions across NE NM, the OK/TX Panhandles and W OK.*

**National Weather Service**

*Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX*



**Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt**  
**817-978-1100 x 147**

# Key Points



## Today

- Elevated fire weather conditions this afternoon over NE NM, the TX/OK Panhandles & W OK

## Sunday

- Isolated strong/severe storms possible over SE LA throughout the day; strong winds and an isolated tornado possible, along with heavy rain/isolated flooding
- Snow expected in higher elevations of S NM; up to 3-6" possible in the Gila Wilderness

## Monday - Wednesday

- Strong storms continue to be possible over SE LA on Monday; strong winds are the main threat
- An active weather pattern will keep rain chances over eastern portions of the Region through midweek; widespread severe weather and/or flooding is not expected at this time

*See extra slide at the end of the presentation for the forecast possibilities at the end of the week*

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

## Dec 16, 2017 through Dec 20, 2017

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Severe Weather		SE LA	SE LA		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding		SE LA			
Fire Weather	NE NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK				
Winter		S NM			
River Flooding					

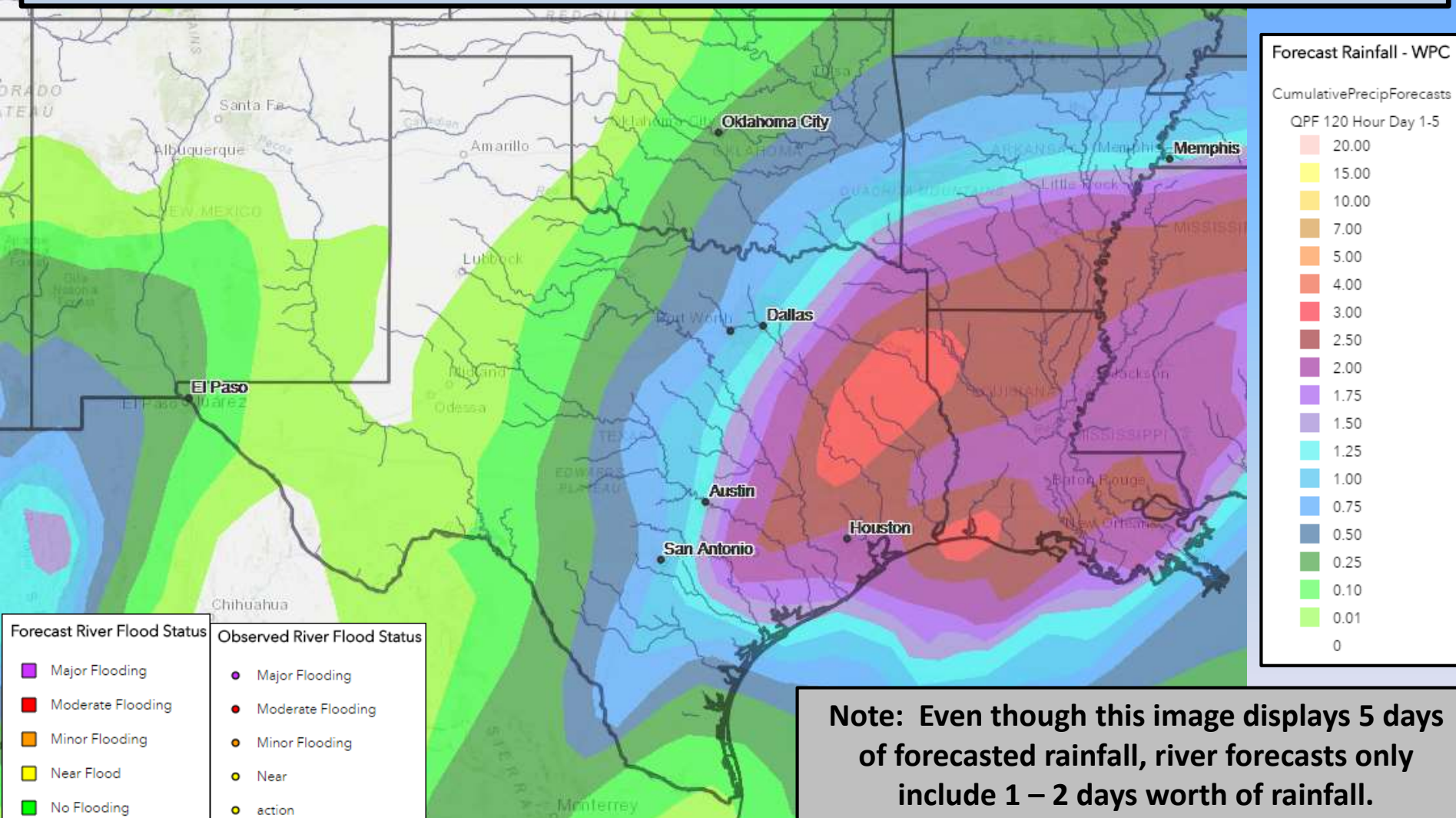
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

The rainfall on this forecast is a combination of today and Tuesday/Wednesday. Only minor rises on rivers in these areas are possible as a result of this rainfall; drought conditions prevail.

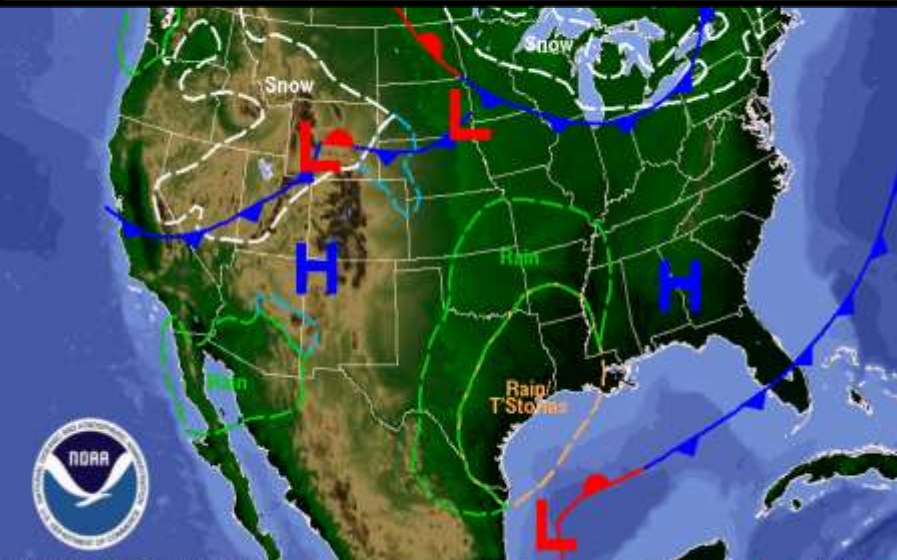


For the latest on river flooding: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps>



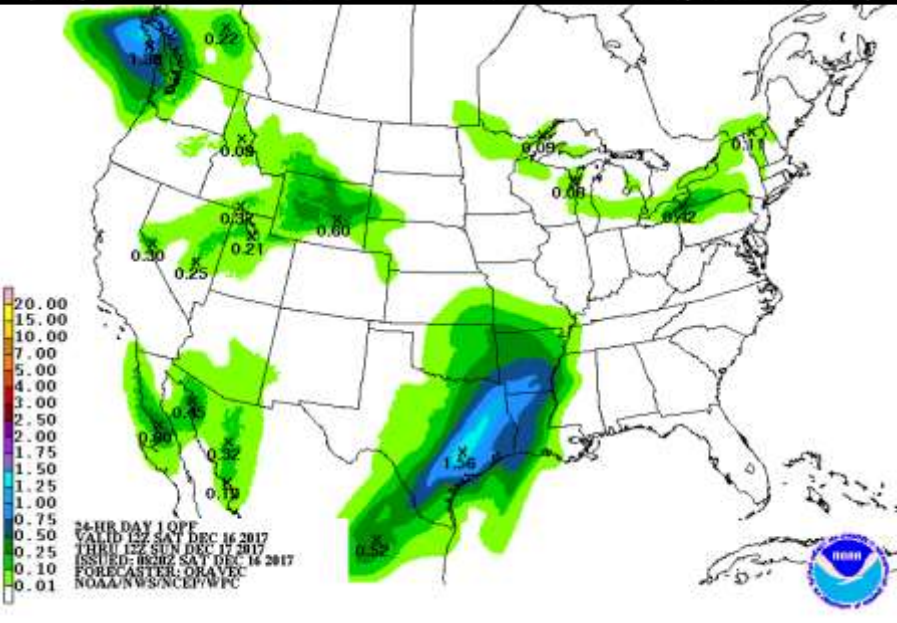
# Today's Weather

Elevated fire weather conditions this afternoon over NE NM, the TX/OK Panhandles and W OK.



**Day 1 National Forecast Chart**  
Valid Sat, Dec 16, 2017, issued 4:02 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Santorelli with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow  
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 1 OPI  
VALID 12Z SAT DEC 16 2017  
THRU 12Z SUN DEC 17 2017  
ISSUED 1620Z SAT DEC 16 2017  
FORECASTER: OMA/VEC  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

## Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, December 16, 2017

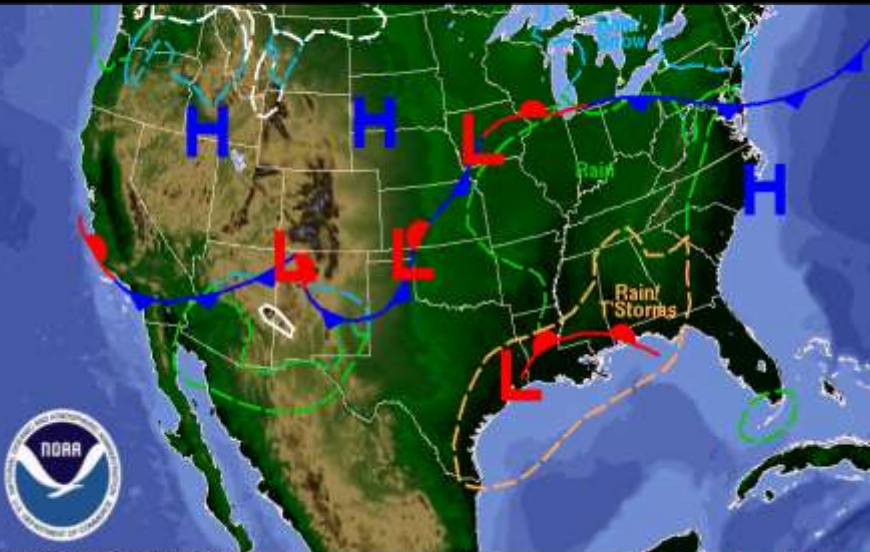
Last Updated: Dec 16 2017 0654 AM CST  
Valid Until: Dec 17 2017 0600 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

# Tomorrow's Weather

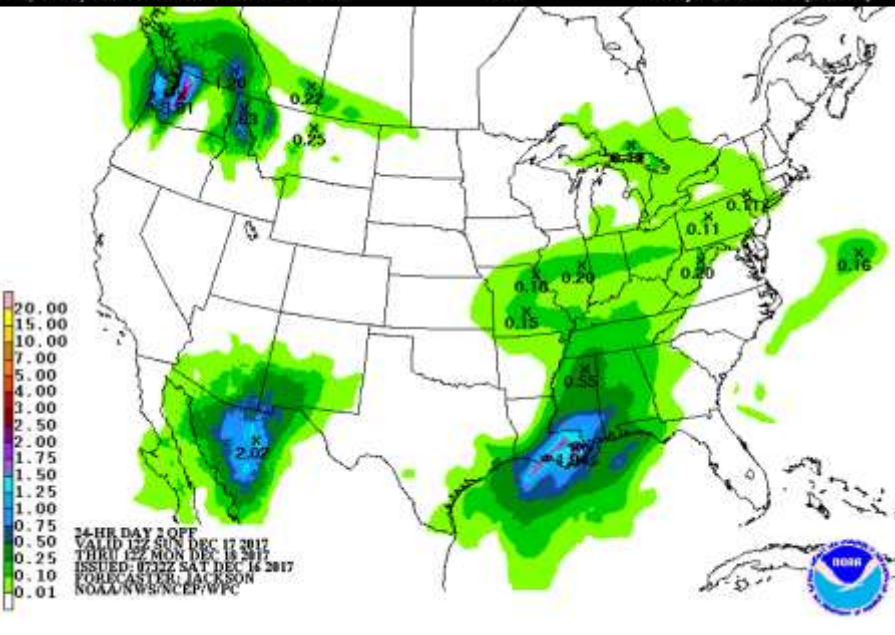


Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Dec 17, 2017, issued 4:10 AM EST Sat, Dec 16, 2017  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Santofeli with WPC/SPC/INHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OFF  
VALID 12Z SUN DEC 17 2017  
THRU 12Z MON DEC 18 2017  
ISSUED 0722Z SAT DEC 16 2017  
FORECASTER JAM FISON  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WR

Strong storms possible over SE LA throughout the day; strong winds and an isolated tornado possible, along with heavy rainfall/isolated flooding.

Snow expected in higher elevations of S NM; up to 3-6" possible in the Gila Wilderness.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

## Severe Weather Outlook Sunday, December 17, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 16 2017 12:02 AM CST  
Valid until: Dec 18 2017 06:00 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder



# Monday's Weather



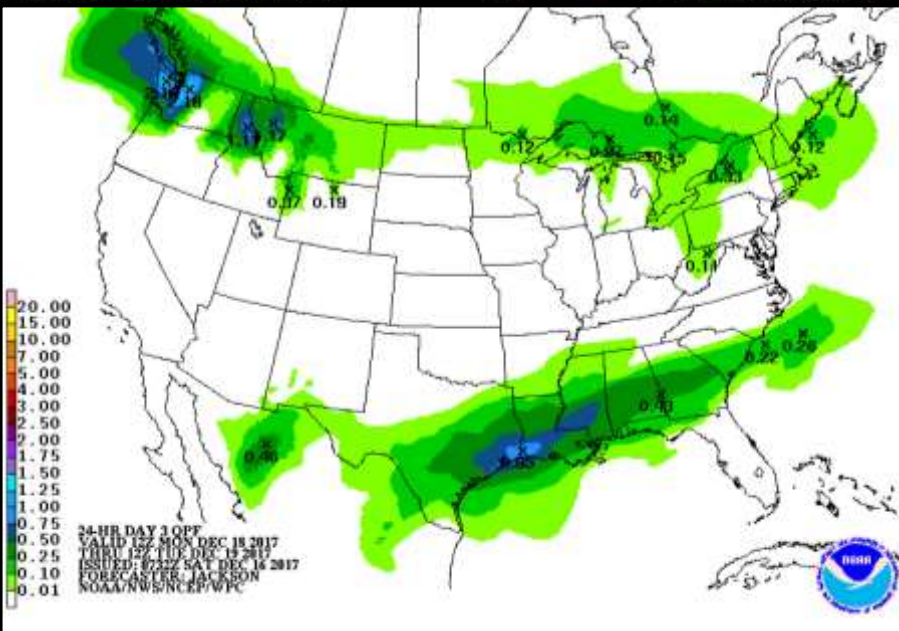
Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Dec 18, 2017, issued 4:14 AM EST Sat, Dec 16, 2017  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Santorelli with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)  
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)  
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)  
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

Strong storms continue to be possible over SE LA; strong winds are the main threat.



34-HR DAY 3 OVF  
VALID 12Z MON DEC 18 2017  
TUE 12Z TUE DEC 19 2017  
ISSUED 6:42Z SAT DEC 16 2017  
FORECASTER: J. SANTORELLI  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

## Severe Weather Outlook Monday, December 18, 2017

Last Updated: Dec 16 2017 6:47 AM CST  
Valid Until: Dec 19 2017 0600 AM CST



NOAA  
National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center  
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

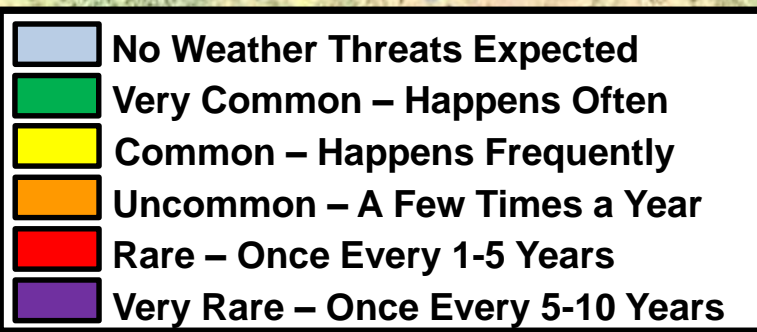


# Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

## *Tuesday - Wednesday*



An active weather pattern will keep rain chances over eastern portions of the Region during this time period; widespread severe weather and/or flooding is not expected.



\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.





# Wintry Precipitation around Christmas Weekend? Too soon to tell.

National Weather Service Fort Worth

We're monitoring a **\*\*potential\*\*** for wintry weather late next week and into the Christmas Weekend. We know that very cold air will arrive late on Thursday, but the potential for precipitation remains highly uncertain at this time. There are two primary scenarios which could play out:

Scenario 1: This would keep things **cold**, but mainly dry across North and Central Texas.

Scenario 2: This would favor a mix of **freezing rain, sleet, and snow** across much of the region.



635 AM CST  
Sat Dec 16 2017  
National Weather Service  
Fort Worth, TX

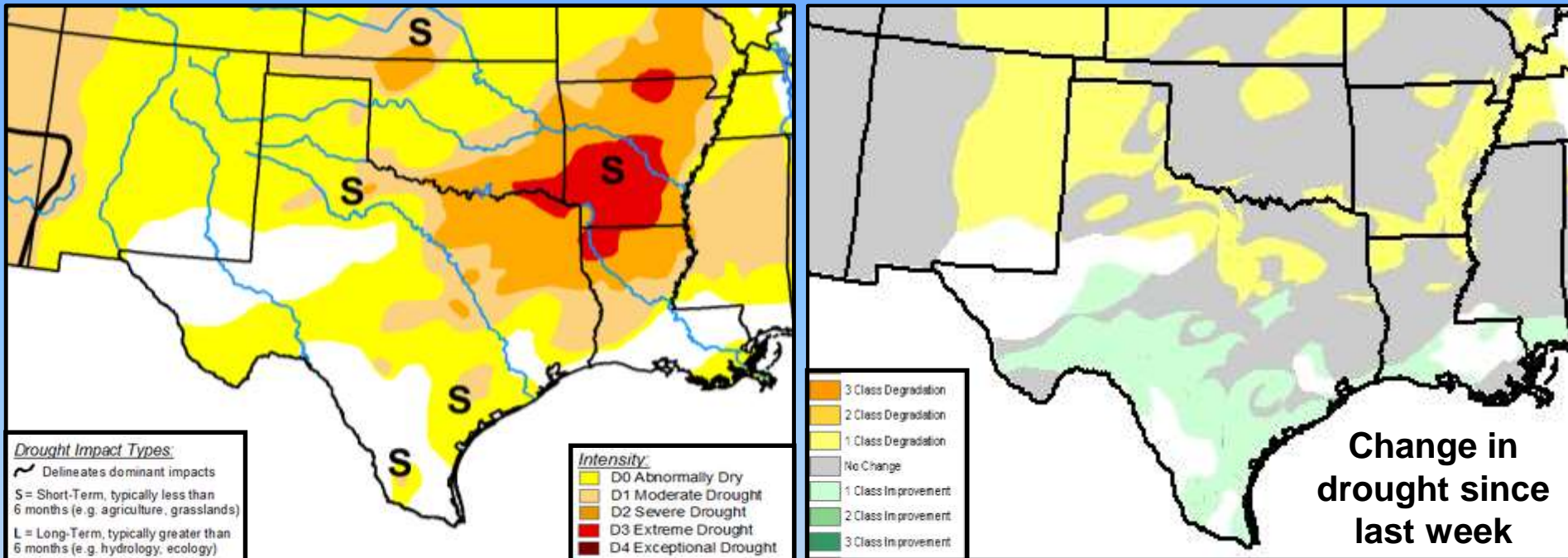


@NWSFortWorth  
[weather.gov/FortWorth](http://weather.gov/FortWorth)



# Drought Monitor Released December 14, 2017

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, December 12, 2017



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	42.40%	26.13%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	7.07%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	3.12%	0.78%	0.00%	3.14%
Texas	0.76%	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%
New Mexico	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%



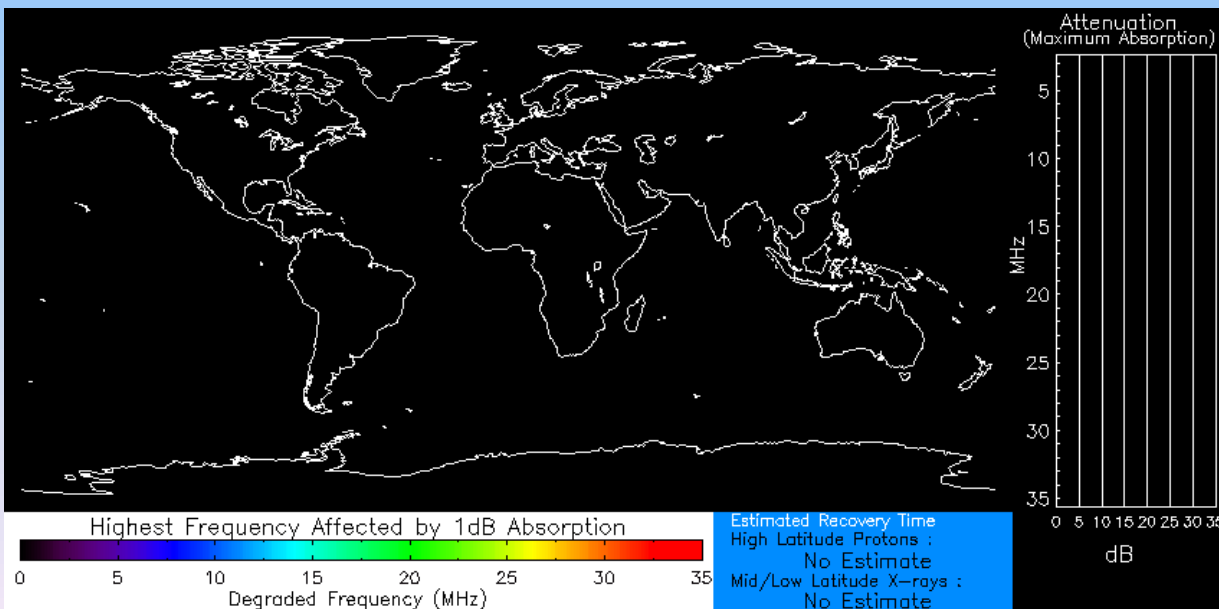
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



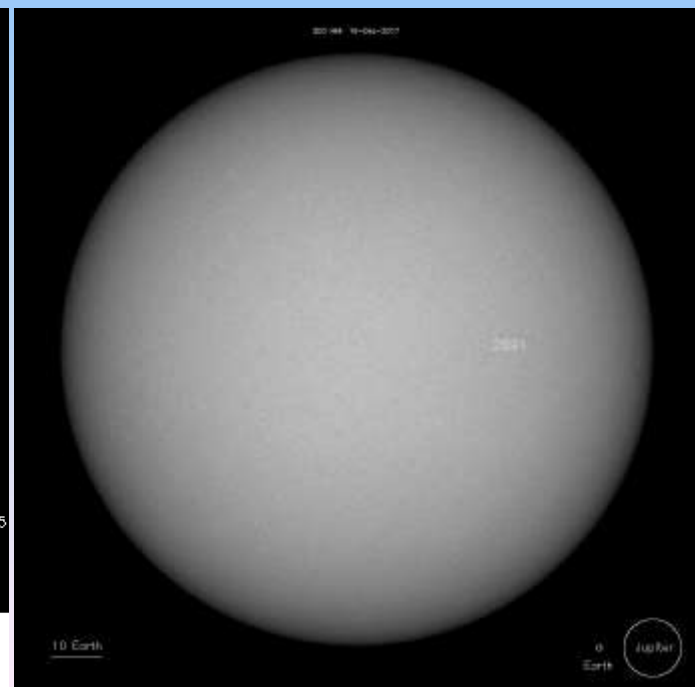
[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Minor (G1) Storm (Max Kp = 5)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal Proton Background  
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA



Information provided by:



**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747 **\*New Direct Number**  
E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)  
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

**facebook**

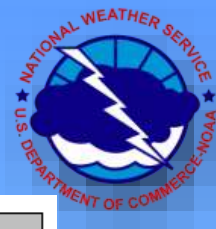
<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

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The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>